

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Joseph Peter Hubert Maria MERTENS

Examiner: A.K. Pechhold

Application No.: 10/511,339

Art Unit: 3671

Filed: October 15, 2004

For: BARRIER ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
FEE TRANSMITTAL UNDER RULE 17(p)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449.

Applicants present these references so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104. Applicants respectfully request that these references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

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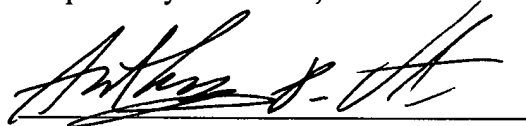
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Enclosed is Check No. 43128 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee for submitting an Information Disclosure Statement after the first Office Action but before Final Rejection pursuant to Rule 97(c)(1) and (2) and Rule 17(p).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Dec. 21, 2005

By:



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SERIAL NO.
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FILING DATE
October 15, 2004

GROUP

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DATE CONSIDERED

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])